

**ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE®**  
**2012 EDITION**



**VOLUME III**

**Based on the 2012  
International Residential  
Code®**

2012 Arkansas Fire Prevention Code, Volume III-Residential

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#### **TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:**

The *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code* ("AFPC" or "Fire Code" or "Code") 2012 edition, which supersedes the 2007 edition, has been developed to assist in preventing and controlling fires in and outside of structures in the State of Arkansas. The proper use of this Code can result in saving lives and property through the prevention of fires in our state.

I encourage Arkansas cities and counties to join with the Arkansas State Fire Marshal's Office in our effort to enforce the AFPC by adopting the Fire Code as a local ordinance. The adoption of the AFPC 2012 edition is important, and it is my hope that every citizen will use this Code to their fullest advantage in fire prevention.

#### **ORDER**

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police by Section 6 of Act 254 of 1955 (A.C.A. §§ 12-13-105), as amended, I promulgate these rules for the prevention of fire hazards in the State of Arkansas. The rules are set out in detail in the copy attached hereto.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that said rules are to become effective January 1, 2014, in compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act of the State of Arkansas (A.C.A. §§25-15-201 through §25-15-214), and shall be known as the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, 2012 edition.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my signature as Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police this August 1, 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan Witt".

Colonel Stan Witt  
Director, Arkansas State Police and  
Arkansas State Fire Marshal

## FOREWORD

The *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code* was developed using the nationally and internationally recognized and accepted *International Fire Code*, *International Building Code* and *International Residential Code*, with revisions based on recommendations from Arkansas-based subject matter experts.

There are countless individuals who contributed to the 2012 successful revision of the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*. The following Arkansans unselfishly devoted their time and expertise to serve on the informal Arkansas Fire Prevention Code Revision Committee. The State Fire Marshal's Office extends its heartfelt thanks to everyone who participated in the revision process:

Paul Acre, Engineer, Health Facility Services Section, Arkansas Department of Health  
Wally Bailey, Fort Smith Building Official, Arkansas Chapter of ICC  
James Birchfield, Fire Marshal, Bentonville Fire Department  
Jerry Brackett, Architect, Brackett-Krennerich & Associates  
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Jimmie Deer, Fort Smith Building Department, Arkansas Chapter of ICC  
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Arkansas Department of Education  
David Griffin, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Child Care Licensing Division  
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Mark Wheeler, Vice President, Arkansas Automatic Sprinklers

Eddie White, Fire Marshal, Mountain Home Fire Department  
Doug Williams, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Child Care Licensing Division  
Kelly Volin, Transportation Program Manager, Arkansas Energy Office

The intent of the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code* is to reduce the number of fires in Arkansas and reduce the number of other hazard-related concerns. The *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code* establishes minimum rules dealing with fire and building safety.

Written communications for the State Fire Marshal's Office should be directed to:

State Fire Marshal's Office  
Department of Arkansas State Police  
1 State Police Plaza Drive  
Little Rock, AR 72209

The State Fire Marshal's Office can be contacted by telephone at 501-618-8624 (until further notice). The fax number for the State Fire Marshal's Office is 501-618-8621 (until further notice).



Capt. Lindsey Williams  
State Fire Marshal's Office  
Department of Arkansas  
State Police

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**ARKANSAS FIRE PREVENTION CODE RULES**  
**2012 EDITION**  
**DEFINITIONS**

These Rules are promulgated by the Director of the Department of Arkansas State Police, who serves by operation of law as the Arkansas State Fire Marshal under the authority granted by Arkansas Act 254 of 1955, codified at A.C.A. §§ 12-13-101 to A.C.A. §12-13-116, as amended. The purpose of these Rules is to aid in the implementation, interpretation and enforcement of the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code* (AFPC), 2012 edition.

The *International Fire Code*, 2012 edition, the *International Building Code*, 2012 edition, and the *International Residential Code*, 2012 edition, as published by the International Code Council and the rules, as amended and adopted by the Arkansas State Fire Marshal, shall constitute the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, 2012 edition. These Rules shall be effective January 1, 2014.

The following shall be defined as:

INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING CODE shall mean the *Arkansas State Plumbing Code*.

INTERNATIONAL PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL CODE is replaced by "Arkansas Department of Health Rules Pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Systems."

INTERNATIONAL MECHANICAL CODE shall mean the *Arkansas State Mechanical Code*.

INTERNATIONAL FUEL GAS CODE shall mean the *Arkansas State Gas Code*.

INTERNATIONAL ENERGY CONSERVATION CODE shall mean the *Arkansas Energy Code*.

INTERNATIONAL FIRE CODE shall mean the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, Volume I.

INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE shall mean the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, Volume II.

INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE shall mean the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, Volume III.

INTERNATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE shall mean the *Arkansas (National) Electrical Code*.

BUILDING OFFICIAL shall mean any governmental official having authority to enforce that aspect of the Code.

Dotted lines in the margin indicate Arkansas revisions.



Solid stars in the margin indicate Arkansas deletions.



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# Part I—Administrative

## CHAPTER 1

### SCOPE AND ADMINISTRATION

#### PART 1—SCOPE AND APPLICATION

##### SECTION R101 GENERAL

**R101.1 Title.** These provisions shall be known as the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, Volume III, and shall be cited as such and will be referred to herein as “this Code.”

**R101.2 Scope.** The provisions of the *Arkansas Fire Prevention Code*, Volume III shall apply to the construction, alteration, movement, enlargement, replacement, repair, equipment, use and occupancy, location, removal and demolition of detached one- and two-family dwellings and townhouses not more than 3 stories above *grade plane* in height with a separate means of egress and their accessory structures.

##### Exceptions:

1. Live/work units complying with the requirements of Section 419 of the *International Building Code* shall be permitted to be built as one- and two-family dwellings or townhouses. Fire suppression required by Section 419.5 of the *International Building Code* when constructed under the *International Residential Code for One- and Two-family Dwellings* shall conform to Section P2904.
2. Owner-occupied lodging houses with five or fewer guestrooms shall be permitted to be constructed in accordance with the *International Residential Code for One- and Two-family Dwellings* when equipped with a fire sprinkler system in accordance with Section P2904.

**R101.3 Intent.** The purpose of this code is to establish minimum requirements to safeguard the public safety, health and general welfare through affordability, structural strength, means of egress facilities, stability, sanitation, light and ventilation, energy conservation and safety to life and property from fire and other hazards attributed to the built environment and to provide safety to fire fighters and emergency responders during emergency operations.

##### SECTION R102 APPLICABILITY

**R102.1 General.** Where there is a conflict between a general requirement and a specific requirement, the specific requirement shall be applicable. Where, in any specific case, different sections of this code specify different materials, methods

of construction or other requirements, the most restrictive shall govern.

**R102.2 Other laws.** The provisions of this code shall not be deemed to nullify any provisions of local, state or federal law.

**R102.3 Application of references.** References to chapter or section numbers, or to provisions not specifically identified by number, shall be construed to refer to such chapter, section or provision of this code.

**R102.4 Referenced codes and standards.** The codes and standards referenced in this code shall be considered part of the requirements of this code to the prescribed extent of each such reference and as further regulated in Sections R102.4.1 and R102.4.2.

**Exception:** Where enforcement of a code provision would violate the conditions of the *listing* of the *equipment* or *appliance*, the conditions of the *listing* and manufacturer's instructions shall apply.

**R102.4.1 Conflicts.** Where conflicts occur between provisions of this code and referenced codes and standards, the provisions of this code shall apply.

**R102.4.2 Provisions in referenced codes and standards.** Where the extent of the reference to a referenced code or standard includes subject matter that is within the scope of this code, the provisions of this code, as applicable, shall take precedence over the provisions in the referenced code or standard.

**R102.5 Appendices.** Provisions in the appendices shall not apply unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance. Appendices A through Q are **NOT** adopted by the State of Arkansas and shall not apply unless adopted by a local ordinance.

**R102.6 Partial invalidity.** In the event any part or provision of this code is held to be illegal or void, this shall not have the effect of making void or illegal any of the other parts or provisions.

**R102.7 Existing structures.** The legal occupancy of any structure existing on the date of adoption of this code shall be permitted to continue without change, except as is specifically covered in this code, the *International Property Maintenance Code* or the *International Fire Code*, or as is deemed necessary by the *building official* for the general safety and welfare of the occupants and the public.

**R102.7.1 Additions, alterations or repairs.** Additions, alterations or repairs to any structure shall conform to the requirements for a new structure without requiring the existing structure to comply with all of the requirements of this code, unless otherwise stated. Additions, alterations or

repairs shall not cause an existing structure to become unsafe or adversely affect the performance of the building.

## PART 2—ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

### SECTION R103 DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SAFETY

**R103.1 Creation of enforcement agency.** The department of building safety is hereby created and the official in charge thereof shall be known as the *building official*.

**R103.2 Appointment.** The *building official* shall be appointed by the chief appointing authority of the *jurisdiction*.

**R103.3 Deputies.** In accordance with the prescribed procedures of this *jurisdiction* and with the concurrence of the appointing authority, the *building official* shall have the authority to appoint a deputy *building official*, the related technical officers, inspectors, plan examiners and other employees. Such employees shall have powers as delegated by the *building official*.

### SECTION R104 DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

**R104.1 General.** The *building official* is hereby authorized and directed to enforce the provisions of this code. The *building official* shall have the authority to render interpretations of this code and to adopt policies and procedures in order to clarify the application of its provisions. Such interpretations, policies and procedures shall be in conformance with the intent and purpose of this code. Such policies and procedures shall not have the effect of waiving requirements specifically provided for in this code.

**R104.2 Applications and permits.** The *building official* shall receive applications, review *construction documents* and issue permits for the erection and alteration of buildings and structures, inspect the premises for which such permits have been issued and enforce compliance with the provisions of this code.

**R104.3 Notices and orders.** The *building official* shall issue all necessary notices or orders to ensure compliance with this code.

**R104.4 Inspections.** The *building official* is authorized to make all of the required inspections, or the *building official* shall have the authority to accept reports of inspection by *approved agencies* or individuals. Reports of such inspections shall be in writing and be certified by a responsible officer of such *approved agency* or by the responsible individual. The *building official* is authorized to engage such expert opinion as deemed necessary to report upon unusual technical issues that arise, subject to the approval of the appointing authority.

**R104.5 Identification.** The *building official* shall carry proper identification when inspecting structures or premises in the performance of duties under this code.

**R104.6 Right of entry.** Where it is necessary to make an inspection to enforce the provisions of this code, or where the *building official* has reasonable cause to believe that there exists in a structure or upon a premises a condition which is contrary to or in violation of this code which makes the structure or premises unsafe, dangerous or hazardous, the *building official* or designee is authorized to enter the structure or premises at reasonable times to inspect or to perform the duties imposed by this code, provided that if such structure or premises be occupied that credentials be presented to the occupant and entry requested. If such structure or premises be unoccupied, the *building official* shall first make a reasonable effort to locate the owner or other person having charge or control of the structure or premises and request entry. If entry is refused, the *building official* shall have recourse to the remedies provided by law to secure entry.

**R104.7 Department records.** The *building official* shall keep official records of applications received, permits and certificates issued, fees collected, reports of inspections, and notices and orders issued. Such records shall be retained in the official records for the period required for the retention of public records.

**R104.8 Liability.** The *building official*, member of the board of appeals or employee charged with the enforcement of this code, while acting for the *jurisdiction* in good faith and without malice in the discharge of the duties required by this code or other pertinent law or ordinance, shall not thereby be rendered liable personally and is hereby relieved from personal liability for any damage accruing to persons or property as a result of any act or by reason of an act or omission in the discharge of official duties. Any suit instituted against an officer or employee because of an act performed by that officer or employee in the lawful discharge of duties and under the provisions of this code shall be defended by legal representative of the *jurisdiction* until the final termination of the proceedings. The *building official* or any subordinate shall not be liable for cost in any action, suit or proceeding that is instituted in pursuance of the provisions of this code.

**R104.9 Approved materials and equipment.** Materials, *equipment* and devices *approved* by the *building official* shall be constructed and installed in accordance with such approval.

**R104.9.1 Used materials and equipment.** Used materials, *equipment* and devices shall not be reused unless *approved* by the *building official*.

**R104.10 Modifications.** Wherever there are practical difficulties involved in carrying out the provisions of this code, the *building official* shall have the authority to grant modifications for individual cases, provided the *building official* shall first find that special individual reason makes the strict letter of this code impractical and the modification is in compliance with the intent and purpose of this code and that such modification does not lessen health, life and fire safety or structural requirements. The details of action granting modifications shall be recorded and entered in the files of the department of building safety.

**R104.10.1 Flood hazard areas.** The *building official* shall not grant modifications to any provision related to flood

hazard areas as established by Table R301.2(1) without the granting of a variance to such provisions by the board of appeals.

**R104.11 Alternative materials, design and methods of construction and equipment.** The provisions of this code are not intended to prevent the installation of any material or to prohibit any design or method of construction not specifically prescribed by this code, provided that any such alternative has been *approved*. An alternative material, design or method of construction shall be *approved* where the *building official* finds that the proposed design is satisfactory and complies with the intent of the provisions of this code, and that the material, method or work offered is, for the purpose intended, at least the equivalent of that prescribed in this code. Compliance with the specific performance-based provisions of the International Codes in lieu of specific requirements of this code shall also be permitted as an alternate.

**R104.11.1 Tests.** Whenever there is insufficient evidence of compliance with the provisions of this code, or evidence that a material or method does not conform to the requirements of this code, or in order to substantiate claims for alternative materials or methods, the *building official* shall have the authority to require tests as evidence of compliance to be made at no expense to the *jurisdiction*. Test methods shall be as specified in this code or by other recognized test standards. In the absence of recognized and accepted test methods, the *building official* shall approve the testing procedures. Tests shall be performed by an *approved* agency. Reports of such tests shall be retained by the *building official* for the period required for retention of public records.

## SECTION R105 PERMITS

**R105.1 Required.** Any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move, demolish or change the occupancy of a building or structure, or to erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system, the installation of which is regulated by this code, or to cause any such work to be done, shall first make application to the *building official* and obtain the required *permit*.

**R105.2 Work exempt from permit.** *Permits* shall not be required for the following. Exemption from *permit* requirements of this code shall not be deemed to grant authorization for any work to be done in any manner in violation of the provisions of this code or any other laws or ordinances of this *jurisdiction*.

### Building:

1. One-story detached *accessory structures* used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area does not exceed 200 square feet (18.58 m<sup>2</sup>).
2. Fences not over 7 feet (2134 mm) high.
3. Retaining walls that are not over 4 feet (1219 mm) in height measured from the bottom of the footing

to the top of the wall, unless supporting a surcharge.

4. Water tanks supported directly upon *grade* if the capacity does not exceed 5,000 gallons (18 927 L) and the ratio of height to diameter or width does not exceed 2 to 1.
5. Sidewalks and driveways.
6. Painting, papering, tiling, carpeting, cabinets, counter tops and similar finish work.
7. Prefabricated swimming pools that are less than 24 inches (610 mm) deep.
8. Swings and other playground equipment.
9. Window awnings supported by an exterior wall which do not project more than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the exterior wall and do not require additional support.
10. Decks not exceeding 200 square feet (18.58 m<sup>2</sup>) in area, that are not more than 30 inches (762 mm) above *grade* at any point, are not attached to a *dwelling* and do not serve the exit door required by Section R311.4.

### Electrical:

1. *Listed* cord-and-plug connected temporary decorative lighting.
2. Reinstallation of attachment plug receptacles but not the outlets therefor.
3. Replacement of branch circuit overcurrent devices of the required capacity in the same location.
4. Electrical wiring, devices, *appliances*, apparatus or *equipment* operating at less than 25 volts and not capable of supplying more than 50 watts of energy.
5. Minor repair work, including the replacement of lamps or the connection of *approved* portable electrical *equipment* to *approved* permanently installed receptacles.

### Gas:

1. Portable heating, cooking or clothes drying *appliances*.
2. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of *equipment* or make such *equipment* unsafe.
3. Portable-fuel-cell *appliances* that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.

### Mechanical:

1. Portable heating *appliances*.
2. Portable ventilation *appliances*.
3. Portable cooling units.
4. Steam, hot- or chilled-water piping within any heating or cooling *equipment* regulated by this code.

5. Replacement of any minor part that does not alter approval of *equipment* or make such *equipment* unsafe.
6. Portable evaporative coolers.
7. Self-contained refrigeration systems containing 10 pounds (4.54 kg) or less of refrigerant or that are actuated by motors of 1 horsepower (746 W) or less.
8. Portable-fuel-cell *appliances* that are not connected to a fixed piping system and are not interconnected to a power grid.

The stopping of leaks in drains, water, soil, waste or vent pipe; provided, however, that if any concealed trap, drain-pipe, water, soil, waste or vent pipe becomes defective and it becomes necessary to remove and replace the same with new material, such work shall be considered as new work and a *permit* shall be obtained and inspection made as provided in this code.

The clearing of stoppages or the repairing of leaks in pipes, valves or fixtures, and the removal and reinstallation of water closets, provided such repairs do not involve or require the replacement or rearrangement of valves, pipes or fixtures.

**R105.2.1 Emergency repairs.** Where *equipment* replacements and repairs must be performed in an emergency situation, the *permit* application shall be submitted within the next working business day to the *building official*.

**R105.2.2 Repairs.** Application or notice to the *building official* is not required for ordinary repairs to structures, replacement of lamps or the connection of *approved* portable electrical *equipment* to *approved* permanently installed receptacles. Such repairs shall not include the cutting away of any wall, partition or portion thereof, the removal or cutting of any structural beam or load-bearing support, or the removal or change of any required means of egress, or rearrangement of parts of a structure affecting the egress requirements; nor shall ordinary repairs include *addition* to, *alteration* of, replacement or relocation of any water supply, sewer, drainage, drain leader, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping, electric wiring or mechanical or other work affecting public health or general safety.

**R105.2.3 Public service agencies.** A *permit* shall not be required for the installation, alteration or repair of generation, transmission, distribution, metering or other related *equipment* that is under the ownership and control of public service agencies by established right.

**R105.3 Application for permit.** To obtain a *permit*, the applicant shall first file an application therefor in writing on a form furnished by the department of building safety for that purpose. Such application shall:

1. Identify and describe the work to be covered by the *permit* for which application is made.
2. Describe the land on which the proposed work is to be done by legal description, street address or similar description that will readily identify and definitely locate the proposed building or work.
3. Indicate the use and occupancy for which the proposed work is intended.

4. Be accompanied by *construction documents* and other information as required in Section R106.1.
5. State the valuation of the proposed work.
6. Be signed by the applicant or the applicant's authorized agent.
7. Give such other data and information as required by the *building official*.

**R105.3.1 Action on application.** The *building official* shall examine or cause to be examined applications for permits and amendments thereto within a reasonable time after filing. If the application or the *construction documents* do not conform to the requirements of pertinent laws, the *building official* shall reject such application in writing stating the reasons therefor. If the *building official* is satisfied that the proposed work conforms to the requirements of this code and laws and ordinances applicable thereto, the *building official* shall issue a *permit* therefor as soon as practicable.

**R105.3.1.1 Determination of substantially improved or substantially damaged existing buildings in flood hazard areas.** For applications for reconstruction, rehabilitation, *addition* or other improvement of existing buildings or structures located in a flood hazard area as established by Table R301.2(1), the *building official* shall examine or cause to be examined the *construction documents* and shall prepare a finding with regard to the value of the proposed work. For buildings that have sustained damage of any origin, the value of the proposed work shall include the cost to repair the building or structure to its predamaged condition. If the *building official* finds that the value of proposed work equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building or structure before the damage has occurred or the improvement is started, the finding shall be provided to the board of appeals for a determination of substantial improvement or substantial damage. Applications determined by the board of appeals to constitute substantial improvement or substantial damage shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of Section R322.

**R105.3.2 Time limitation of application.** An application for a *permit* for any proposed work shall be deemed to have been abandoned 180 days after the date of filing unless such application has been pursued in good faith or a *permit* has been issued; except that the *building official* is authorized to grant one or more extensions of time for additional periods not exceeding 180 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

**R105.4 Validity of permit.** The issuance or granting of a *permit* shall not be construed to be a *permit* for, or an *approval* of, any violation of any of the provisions of this code or of any other ordinance of the *jurisdiction*. Permits presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or other ordinances of the *jurisdiction* shall not be valid. The issuance of a *permit* based on *construction documents* and other data shall not prevent the *building official* from requiring the correction of errors in the *construction*

*documents* and other data. The *building official* is also authorized to prevent occupancy or use of a structure where in violation of this code or of any other ordinances of this *jurisdiction*.

**R105.5 Expiration.** Every *permit* issued shall become invalid unless the work authorized by such *permit* is commenced within 180 days after its issuance, or if the work authorized by such *permit* is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days after the time the work is commenced. The *building official* is authorized to grant, in writing, one or more extensions of time, for periods not more than 180 days each. The extension shall be requested in writing and justifiable cause demonstrated.

**R105.6 Suspension or revocation.** The *building official* is authorized to suspend or revoke a *permit* issued under the provisions of this code wherever the *permit* is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect, inaccurate or incomplete information, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation or any of the provisions of this code.

**R105.7 Placement of permit.** The *building permit* or copy thereof shall be kept on the site of the work until the completion of the project.

**R105.8 Responsibility.** It shall be the duty of every person who performs work for the installation or repair of building, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing systems, for which this code is applicable, to comply with this code.

**R105.9 Preliminary inspection.** Before issuing a *permit*, the *building official* is authorized to examine or cause to be examined buildings, structures and sites for which an application has been filed.

## SECTION R106 CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

**R106.1 Submittal documents.** Submittal documents consisting of *construction documents*, and other data shall be submitted in two or more sets with each application for a *permit*. The *construction documents* shall be prepared by a registered *design professional* where required by the statutes of the *jurisdiction* in which the project is to be constructed. Where special conditions exist, the *building official* is authorized to require additional *construction documents* to be prepared by a registered *design professional*.

**Exception:** The *building official* is authorized to waive the submission of *construction documents* and other data not required to be prepared by a registered *design professional* if it is found that the nature of the work applied for is such that reviewing of *construction documents* is not necessary to obtain compliance with this code.

**R106.1.1 Information on construction documents.** *Construction documents* shall be drawn upon suitable material. Electronic media documents are permitted to be submitted when approved by the *building official*. *Construction documents* shall be of sufficient clarity to indicate the location, nature and extent of the work proposed and show in detail that it will conform to the provisions of this code and relevant laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, as determined by the *building official*. Where required by the

*building official*, all braced wall lines, shall be identified on the *construction documents* and all pertinent information including, but not limited to, bracing methods, location and length of braced wall panels, foundation requirements of braced wall panels at top and bottom shall be provided.

**R106.1.2 Manufacturer's installation instructions.** Manufacturer's installation instructions, as required by this code, shall be available on the job site at the time of inspection.

**R106.1.3 Information for construction in flood hazard areas.** For buildings and structures located in whole or in part in flood hazard areas as established by Table R301.2(1), *construction documents* shall include:

1. Delineation of flood hazard areas, floodway boundaries and flood zones and the design flood elevation, as appropriate;
2. The elevation of the proposed lowest floor, including *basement*; in areas of shallow flooding (AO Zones), the height of the proposed lowest floor, including *basement*, above the highest adjacent grade;
3. The elevation of the bottom of the lowest horizontal structural member in coastal high hazard areas (V Zone); and
4. If design flood elevations are not included on the community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), the *building official* and the applicant shall obtain and reasonably utilize any design flood elevation and floodway data available from other sources.

**R106.2 Site plan or plot plan.** The *construction documents* submitted with the application for *permit* shall be accompanied by a site plan showing the size and location of new construction and existing structures on the site and distances from *lot lines*. In the case of demolition, the site plan shall show construction to be demolished and the location and size of existing structures and construction that are to remain on the site or plot. The *building official* is authorized to waive or modify the requirement for a site plan when the application for permit is for alteration or repair or when otherwise warranted.

**R106.3 Examination of documents.** The *building official* shall examine or cause to be examined *construction documents* for code compliance.

**R106.3.1 Approval of construction documents.** When the *building official* issues a *permit*, the *construction documents* shall be approved in writing or by a stamp which states "REVIEWED FOR CODE COMPLIANCE." One set of *construction documents* so reviewed shall be retained by the *building official*. The other set shall be returned to the applicant, shall be kept at the site of work and shall be open to inspection by the *building official* or his or her authorized representative.

**R106.3.2 Previous approvals.** This code shall not require changes in the *construction documents*, construction or designated occupancy of a structure for which a lawful *permit* has been heretofore issued or otherwise lawfully

authorized, and the construction of which has been pursued in good faith within 180 days after the effective date of this code and has not been abandoned.

**R106.3.3 Phased approval.** The *building official* is authorized to issue a *permit* for the construction of foundations or any other part of a building or structure before the *construction documents* for the whole building or structure have been submitted, provided that adequate information and detailed statements have been filed complying with pertinent requirements of this code. The holder of such *permit* for the foundation or other parts of a building or structure shall proceed at the holder's own risk with the building operation and without assurance that a *permit* for the entire structure will be granted.

**R106.4 Amended construction documents.** Work shall be installed in accordance with the *approved construction documents*, and any changes made during construction that are not in compliance with the *approved construction documents* shall be resubmitted for approval as an amended set of *construction documents*.

**R106.5 Retention of construction documents.** One set of *approved construction documents* shall be retained by the *building official* for a period of not less than 180 days from date of completion of the permitted work, or as required by state or local laws.

## SECTION R107 TEMPORARY STRUCTURES AND USES

**R107.1 General.** The *building official* is authorized to issue a *permit* for temporary structures and temporary uses. Such permits shall be limited as to time of service, but shall not be permitted for more than 180 days. The *building official* is authorized to grant extensions for demonstrated cause.

**R107.2 Conformance.** Temporary structures and uses shall conform to the structural strength, fire safety, means of egress, light, ventilation and sanitary requirements of this code as necessary to ensure the public health, safety and general welfare.

**R107.3 Temporary power.** The *building official* is authorized to give permission to temporarily supply and use power in part of an electric installation before such installation has been fully completed and the final certificate of completion has been issued. The part covered by the temporary certificate shall comply with the requirements specified for temporary lighting, heat or power in NFPA 70.

**R107.4 Termination of approval.** The *building official* is authorized to terminate such *permit* for a temporary structure or use and to order the temporary structure or use to be discontinued.

## SECTION R108 FEES

**R108.1 Payment of fees.** A *permit* shall not be valid until the fees prescribed by law have been paid. Nor shall an amend-

ment to a *permit* be released until the additional fee, if any, has been paid.

**R108.2 Schedule of permit fees.** On buildings, structures, electrical, gas, mechanical and plumbing systems or *alterations* requiring a *permit*, a fee for each *permit* shall be paid as required, in accordance with the schedule as established by the applicable governing authority.

**R108.3 Building permit valuations.** Building *permit* valuation shall include total value of the work for which a *permit* is being issued, such as electrical, gas, mechanical, plumbing equipment and other permanent systems, including materials and labor.

**R108.4 Related fees.** The payment of the fee for the construction, alteration, removal or demolition for work done in connection with or concurrently with the work authorized by a building *permit* shall not relieve the applicant or holder of the *permit* from the payment of other fees that are prescribed by law.

**R108.5 Refunds.** The *building official* is authorized to establish a refund policy.

**R108.6 Work commencing before permit issuance.** Any person who commences work requiring a *permit* on a building, structure, electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system before obtaining the necessary permits shall be subject to a fee established by the applicable governing authority that shall be in addition to the required *permit* fees.

## SECTION R109 INSPECTIONS

**R109.1 Types of inspections.** For onsite construction, from time to time the *building official*, upon notification from the *permit* holder or his agent, shall make or cause to be made any necessary inspections and shall either approve that portion of the construction as completed or shall notify the *permit* holder or his or her agent wherein the same fails to comply with this code.

**R109.1.1 Foundation inspection.** Inspection of the foundation shall be made after poles or piers are set or trenches or *basement* areas are excavated and any required forms erected and any required reinforcing steel is in place and supported prior to the placing of concrete. The foundation inspection shall include excavations for thickened slabs intended for the support of bearing walls, partitions, structural supports, or *equipment* and special requirements for wood foundations.

**R109.1.2 Plumbing, mechanical, gas and electrical systems inspection.** Rough inspection of plumbing, mechanical, gas and electrical systems shall be made prior to covering or concealment, before fixtures or *appliances* are set or installed, and prior to framing inspection.

**Exception:** Backfilling of ground-source heat pump loop systems tested in accordance with Section M2105.1 prior to inspection shall be permitted.

**R109.1.3 Floodplain inspections.** For construction in flood hazard areas as established by Table R301.2(1),

upon placement of the lowest floor, including *basement*, and prior to further vertical construction, the *building official* shall require submission of documentation, prepared and sealed by a registered *design professional*, of the elevation of the lowest floor, including *basement*, required in Section R322.

**R109.1.4 Frame and masonry inspection.** Inspection of framing and masonry construction shall be made after the roof, masonry, all framing, firestopping, draftstopping and bracing are in place and after the plumbing, mechanical and electrical rough inspections are *approved*.

**R109.1.5 Other inspections.** In addition to the called inspections above, the *building official* may make or require any other inspections to ascertain compliance with this code and other laws enforced by the *building official*.

**R109.1.5.1 Fire-resistance-rated construction inspection.** Where fire-resistance-rated construction is required between *dwelling units* or due to location on property, the *building official* shall require an inspection of such construction after all lathing and/or wallboard is in place, but before any plaster is applied, or before wallboard joints and fasteners are taped and finished.

**R109.1.6 Final inspection.** Final inspection shall be made after the permitted work is complete and prior to occupancy.

**R109.1.6.1 Elevation documentation.** If located in a flood hazard area, the documentation of elevations required in Section R322.1.10 shall be submitted to the *building official* prior to the final inspection.

**R109.2 Inspection agencies.** The *building official* is authorized to accept reports of *approved* agencies, provided such agencies satisfy the requirements as to qualifications and reliability.

**R109.3 Inspection requests.** It shall be the duty of the *permit* holder or their agent to notify the *building official* that such work is ready for inspection. It shall be the duty of the person requesting any inspections required by this code to provide access to and means for inspection of such work.

**R109.4 Approval required.** Work shall not be done beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the *building official*. The *building official* upon notification, shall make the requested inspections and shall either indicate the portion of the construction that is satisfactory as completed, or shall notify the *permit* holder or an agent of the *permit* holder wherein the same fails to comply with this code. Any portions that do not comply shall be corrected and such portion shall not be covered or concealed until authorized by the *building official*.

cate of occupancy therefor as provided herein. Issuance of a certificate of occupancy shall not be construed as an approval of a violation of the provisions of this code or of other ordinances of the *jurisdiction*. Certificates presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of this code or other ordinances of the *jurisdiction* shall not be valid.

#### Exceptions:

1. Certificates of occupancy are not required for work exempt from permits under Section R105.2.
2. Accessory buildings or structures.

**R110.2 Change in use.** Changes in the character or use of an existing structure shall not be made except as specified in Sections 3408 and 3409 of the *International Building Code*.

**R110.3 Certificate issued.** After the *building official* inspects the building or structure and finds no violations of the provisions of this code or other laws that are enforced by the department of building safety, the *building official* shall issue a certificate of occupancy which shall contain the following:

1. The building *permit* number.
2. The address of the structure.
3. The name and address of the owner.
4. A description of that portion of the structure for which the certificate is issued.
5. A statement that the described portion of the structure has been inspected for compliance with the requirements of this code.
6. The name of the *building official*.
7. The edition of the code under which the *permit* was issued.
8. If an automatic sprinkler system is provided and whether the sprinkler system is required.
9. Any special stipulations and conditions of the building *permit*.

**R110.4 Temporary occupancy.** The *building official* is authorized to issue a temporary certificate of occupancy before the completion of the entire work covered by the *permit*, provided that such portion or portions shall be occupied safely. The *building official* shall set a time period during which the temporary certificate of occupancy is valid.

**R110.5 Revocation.** The *building official* shall, in writing, suspend or revoke a certificate of occupancy issued under the provisions of this code wherever the certificate is issued in error, or on the basis of incorrect information supplied, or where it is determined that the building or structure or portion thereof is in violation of any ordinance or regulation or any of the provisions of this code.

## SECTION R110 CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY

**R110.1 Use and occupancy.** No building or structure shall be used or occupied, and no change in the existing occupancy classification of a building or structure or portion thereof shall be made until the *building official* has issued a certifi-

## SECTION R111 SERVICE UTILITIES

**R111.1 Connection of service utilities.** No person shall make connections from a utility, source of energy, fuel or power to any building or system that is regulated by this code



for which a *permit* is required, until *approved* by the *building official*.

**R111.2 Temporary connection.** The *building official* shall have the authority to authorize and approve the temporary connection of the building or system to the utility, source of energy, fuel or power.

**R111.3 Authority to disconnect service utilities.** The *building official* shall have the authority to authorize disconnection of utility service to the building, structure or system regulated by this code and the referenced codes and standards set forth in Section R102.4 in case of emergency where necessary to eliminate an immediate hazard to life or property or when such utility connection has been made without the approval required by Section R111.1 or R111.2. The *building official* shall notify the serving utility and whenever possible the owner and occupant of the building, structure or service system of the decision to disconnect prior to taking such action if not notified prior to disconnection. The owner or occupant of the building, structure or service system shall be notified in writing as soon as practical thereafter.

## SECTION R112 BOARD OF APPEALS

**R112.1 General.** In order to hear and decide appeals of orders, decisions or determinations made by the *building official* relative to the application and interpretation of this code, there shall be and is hereby created a board of appeals. The *building official* shall be an ex officio member of said board but shall have no vote on any matter before the board. The board of appeals shall be appointed by the governing body and shall hold office at its pleasure. The board shall adopt rules of procedure for conducting its business, and shall render all decisions and findings in writing to the appellant with a duplicate copy to the *building official*.

**R112.2 Limitations on authority.** An application for appeal shall be based on a claim that the true intent of this code or the rules legally adopted thereunder have been incorrectly interpreted, the provisions of this code do not fully apply, or an equally good or better form of construction is proposed. The board shall have no authority to waive requirements of this code.

**R112.2.1 Determination of substantial improvement in flood hazard areas.** Delete in its entirety.

**R112.2.2 Criteria for issuance of a variance for flood hazard areas.** Delete in its entirety.

**R112.3 Qualifications.** The board of appeals shall consist of members who are qualified by experience and training to pass on matters pertaining to building construction and are not employees of the *jurisdiction*.

**R112.4 Administration.** The *building official* shall take immediate action in accordance with the decision of the board.

## SECTION R113 VIOLATIONS

**R113.1 Unlawful acts.** It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect, construct, alter, extend, repair, move, remove, demolish or occupy any building, structure or *equipment* regulated by this code, or cause same to be done, in conflict with or in violation of any of the provisions of this code.

**R113.2 Notice of violation.** The *building official* is authorized to serve a notice of violation or order on the person responsible for the erection, construction, alteration, extension, repair, moving, removal, demolition or occupancy of a building or structure in violation of the provisions of this code, or in violation of a detail statement or a plan *approved* thereunder, or in violation of a *permit* or certificate issued under the provisions of this code. Such order shall direct the discontinuance of the illegal action or condition and the abatement of the violation.

**R113.3 Prosecution of violation.** If the notice of violation is not complied with in the time prescribed by such notice, the *building official* is authorized to request the legal counsel of the *jurisdiction* to institute the appropriate proceeding at law or in equity to restrain, correct or abate such violation, or to require the removal or termination of the unlawful occupancy of the building or structure in violation of the provisions of this code or of the order or direction made pursuant thereto.

**R113.4 Violation penalties.** Any person who violates a provision of this code or fails to comply with any of the requirements thereof or who erects, constructs, alters or repairs a building or structure in violation of the *approved construction documents* or directive of the *building official*, or of a *permit* or certificate issued under the provisions of this code, shall be subject to penalties as prescribed by law.

## SECTION R114 STOP WORK ORDER

**R114.1 Notice to owner.** Upon notice from the *building official* that work on any building or structure is being prosecuted contrary to the provisions of this code or in an unsafe and dangerous manner, such work shall be immediately stopped. The stop work order shall be in writing and shall be given to the owner of the property involved, or to the owner's agent or to the person doing the work and shall state the conditions under which work will be permitted to resume.

**R114.2 Unlawful continuance.** Any person who shall continue any work in or about the structure after having been served with a stop work order, except such work as that person is directed to perform to remove a violation or unsafe condition, shall be subject to penalties as prescribed by law.

*Text continues on page 11.*



of bracing required by Table R602.10.3(1) is increased by multiplying by a factor of 1.10 and the length of bracing required by Table R602.10.3(3) is increased by multiplying by a factor of 1.20. Wall studs are still subject to the requirements of this section.

2. For steel wall framing, a stud height of 10 feet (3048 mm), plus a height of floor framing not to exceed 16 inches (406 mm).
3. For masonry walls, a maximum bearing wall clear height of 12 feet (3658 mm) plus a height of floor framing not to exceed 16 inches (406 mm).

**Exception:** An additional 8 feet (2438 mm) is permitted for gable end walls.

4. For insulating concrete form walls, the maximum bearing wall height per story as permitted by Section R611 tables plus a height of floor framing not to exceed 16 inches (406 mm).
5. For structural insulated panel (SIP) walls, the maximum bearing wall height per story as permitted by Section R613 tables shall not exceed 10 feet (3048 mm) plus a height of floor framing not to exceed 16 inches (406 mm).

Individual walls or walls studs shall be permitted to exceed these limits as permitted by Chapter 6 provisions, provided *story heights* are not exceeded. Floor framing height shall be permitted to exceed these limits provided the *story height* does not exceed 11 feet 7 inches (3531 mm). An engineered design shall be provided for the wall or wall framing members when they exceed the limits of Chapter 6. Where the *story height* limits of this section are exceeded, the design of the building, or the noncompliant portions thereof, to resist wind and seismic loads shall be in accordance with the *International Building Code*.

**R301.4 Dead load.** The actual weights of materials and construction shall be used for determining dead load with consideration for the dead load of fixed service equipment.

**R301.5 Live load.** The minimum uniformly distributed live load shall be as provided in Table R301.5.

**R301.6 Roof load.** The roof shall be designed for the live load indicated in Table R301.6 or the snow load indicated in Table R301.2(1), whichever is greater.

**TABLE R301.6**  
**MINIMUM ROOF LIVE LOADS IN POUNDS-FORCE PER SQUARE FOOT OF HORIZONTAL PROJECTION**

ROOF SLOPE	TRIBUTARY LOADED AREA IN SQUARE FEET FOR ANY STRUCTURAL MEMBER		
	0 to 200	201 to 600	Over 600
Flat or rise less than 4 inches per foot (1:3)	20	16	12
Rise 4 inches per foot (1:3) to less than 12 inches per foot (1:1)	16	14	12
Rise 12 inches per foot (1:1) and greater	12	12	12

For SI: 1 square foot = 0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 inch per foot = 83.3 mm/m.

**TABLE R301.5**  
**MINIMUM UNIFORMLY DISTRIBUTED LIVE LOADS**  
(in pounds per square foot)

USE	LIVE LOAD
Uninhabitable attics without storage <sup>b</sup>	10
Uninhabitable attics with limited storage <sup>b, g</sup>	20
Habitable attics and attics served with fixed stairs	30
Balconies (exterior) and decks <sup>c</sup>	40
Fire escapes	40
Guardrails and handrails <sup>d</sup>	200 <sup>h</sup>
Guardrail in-fill components <sup>i</sup>	50 <sup>h</sup>
Passenger vehicle garages <sup>a</sup>	50 <sup>a</sup>
Rooms other than sleeping room	40
Sleeping rooms	30
Stairs	40 <sup>c</sup>

For SI: 1 pound per square foot = 0.0479 kPa, 1 square inch = 645 mm<sup>2</sup>, 1 pound = 4.45 N.

- a. Elevated garage floors shall be capable of supporting a 2,000-pound load applied over a 20-square-inch area.
- b. Uninhabitable attics without storage are those where the maximum clear height between joists and rafters is less than 42 inches, or where there are not two or more adjacent trusses with web configurations capable of accommodating an assumed rectangle 42 inches high by 24 inches in width, or greater, within the plane of the trusses. This live load need not be assumed to act concurrently with any other live load requirements.
- c. Individual stair treads shall be designed for the uniformly distributed live load or a 300-pound concentrated load acting over an area of 4 square inches, whichever produces the greater stresses.
- d. A single concentrated load applied in any direction at any point along the top.
- e. See Section R502.2.2 for decks attached to exterior walls.
- f. Guard in-fill components (all those except the handrail), balusters and panel fillers shall be designed to withstand a horizontally applied normal load of 50 pounds on an area equal to 1 square foot. This load need not be assumed to act concurrently with any other live load requirement.
- g. Uninhabitable attics with limited storage are those where the maximum clear height between joists and rafters is 42 inches or greater, or where there are two or more adjacent trusses with web configurations capable of accommodating an assumed rectangle 42 inches in height by 24 inches in width, or greater, within the plane of the trusses.

The live load need only be applied to those portions of the joists or truss bottom chords where all of the following conditions are met:

1. The attic area is accessible from an opening not less than 20 inches in width by 30 inches in length that is located where the clear height in the attic is a minimum of 30 inches.
2. The slopes of the joists or truss bottom chords are no greater than 2 inches vertical to 12 units horizontal.
3. Required insulation depth is less than the joist or truss bottom chord member depth.

The remaining portions of the joists or truss bottom chords shall be designed for a uniformly distributed concurrent live load of not less than 10 lb/ft<sup>2</sup>.

- h. Glazing used in handrail assemblies and guards shall be designed with a safety factor of 4. The safety factor shall be applied to each of the concentrated loads applied to the top of the rail, and to the load on the in-fill components. These loads shall be determined independent of one another, and loads are assumed not to occur with any other live load.

**R301.7 Deflection.** The allowable deflection of any structural member under the live load listed in Sections R301.5 and R301.6 or wind loads determined by Section R301.2.1 shall not exceed the values in Table R301.7.

**TABLE R301.7**  
**ALLOWABLE DEFLECTION OF STRUCTURAL MEMBERS<sup>b,c</sup>**

STRUCTURAL MEMBER	ALLOWABLE DEFLECTION
Rafters having slopes greater than 3:12 with no finished ceiling attached to rafters	$L/180$
Interior walls and partitions	$H/180$
Floors/ceilings with plaster or stucco finish	$L/360$
All other structural members	$L/240$
Exterior walls—wind loads <sup>a</sup> with plaster or stucco finish	$H/360$
Exterior walls with other brittle finishes	$H/240$
Exterior walls with flexible finishes	$H/120^d$
Lintels supporting masonry veneer walls <sup>e</sup>	$L/600$

**Note:**  $L$  = span length,  $H$  = span height.

- The wind load shall be permitted to be taken as 0.7 times the Component and Cladding loads for the purpose of the determining deflection limits herein.
- For cantilever members,  $L$  shall be taken as twice the length of the cantilever.
- For aluminum structural members or panels used in roofs or walls of sunroom additions or patio covers, not supporting edge of glass or sandwich panels, the total load deflection shall not exceed  $L/60$ . For continuous aluminum structural members supporting edge of glass, the total load deflection shall not exceed  $L/175$  for each glass lite or  $L/60$  for the entire length of the member, whichever is more stringent. For sandwich panels used in roofs or walls of sunroom additions or patio covers, the total load deflection shall not exceed  $L/120$ .
- Deflection for exterior walls with interior gypsum board finish shall be limited to an allowable deflection of  $H/180$ .
- Refer to Section R703.7.2.

**R301.8 Nominal sizes.** For the purposes of this code, where dimensions of lumber are specified, they shall be deemed to be nominal dimensions unless specifically designated as actual dimensions.

## SECTION R302 FIRE-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION

**R302.1 Exterior walls.** Construction, projections, openings and penetrations of *exterior walls of dwellings* and accessory buildings shall comply with Table R302.1(1); or *dwellings* equipped throughout with an *automatic sprinkler system*

installed in accordance with Section P2904 shall comply with Table R302.1(2).

### Exceptions:

- Walls, projections, openings or penetrations in walls perpendicular to the line used to determine the *fire separation distance*.
- Walls of *dwellings* and *accessory structures* located on the same *lot*.
- Detached tool sheds and storage sheds, playhouses and similar structures exempted from permits are not required to provide wall protection based on location on the *lot*. Projections beyond the *exterior wall* shall not extend over the *lot line*.
- Detached garages accessory to a *dwelling* located within 2 feet (610 mm) of a *lot line* are permitted to have roof eave projections not exceeding 4 inches (102 mm).
- Foundation vents installed in compliance with this code are permitted.

**R302.2 Townhouses.** Each *townhouse* shall be considered a separate building and shall be separated by fire-resistance-rated wall assemblies meeting the requirements of Section R302.1 for exterior walls.

**Exception:** A common 2-hour fire-resistance-rated wall assembly tested in accordance with ASTM E 119 or UL 263 is permitted for townhouses if such walls do not contain plumbing or mechanical equipment, ducts or vents in the cavity of the common wall. The wall shall be rated for fire exposure from both sides and shall extend to and be tight against exterior walls and the underside of the roof sheathing. Electrical installations shall be installed in accordance with Chapters 34 through 43. Penetrations of electrical outlet boxes shall be in accordance with Section R302.4.

**R302.2.1 Continuity.** The fire-resistance-rated wall or assembly separating *townhouses* shall be continuous from the foundation to the underside of the roof sheathing, deck or slab. The fire-resistance rating shall extend the full length of the wall or assembly, including wall extensions

**TABLE R302.1(1)**  
**EXTERIOR WALLS**

EXTERIOR WALL ELEMENT		MINIMUM FIRE-RESISTANCE RATING	MINIMUM FIRE SEPARATION DISTANCE
Walls	Fire-resistance rated	1 hour—tested in accordance with ASTM E 119 or UL 263 with exposure from both sides	< 5 feet
	Not fire-resistance rated	0 hours	≥ 5 feet
Projections	Fire-resistance rated	1 hour on the underside	≥ 2 feet to < 5 feet
	Not fire-resistance rated	0 hours	≥ 5 feet
Openings in walls	Not allowed	N/A	< 3 feet
	25% maximum of wall area	0 hours	3 feet
	Unlimited	0 hours	5 feet
Penetrations	All	Comply with Section R302.4	< 5 feet
		None required	5 feet

For SI: 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

N/A = Not Applicable.

and residence shall be equipped with solid wood doors not less than  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches (35 mm) in thickness, solid or honeycomb-core steel doors not less than  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches (35 mm) thick, or 20-minute fire-rated doors.

**R302.5.2 Duct penetration.** Ducts in the garage and ducts penetrating the walls or ceilings separating the dwelling from the garage shall be constructed of a minimum No. 26 gage (0.48 mm) sheet steel or other *approved* material and shall have no openings into the garage.

**R302.5.3 Other penetrations.** Penetrations through the separation required in Section R302.6 shall be protected as required by Section R302.11, Item 4.

**R302.6 Dwelling/garage fire separation.** The garage shall be separated as required by Table R302.6. Openings in garage walls shall comply with Section R302.5. This provision does not apply to garage walls that are perpendicular to the adjacent dwelling unit wall.

**R302.7 Under-stair protection.** Enclosed accessible space under stairs shall have walls, under-stair surface and any soffits protected on the enclosed side with  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board.

**R302.8 Foam plastics.** For requirements for foam plastics see Section R316.

**R302.9 Flame spread index and smoke-developed index for wall and ceiling finishes.** Flame spread and smoke index for wall and ceiling finishes shall be in accordance with Sections R302.9.1 through R302.9.4.

**R302.9.1 Flame spread index.** Wall and ceiling finishes shall have a flame spread index of not greater than 200.

**Exception:** Flame spread index requirements for finishes shall not apply to trim defined as picture molds, chair rails, baseboards and handrails; to doors and windows or their frames; or to materials that are less than  $\frac{1}{28}$  inch (0.91 mm) in thickness cemented to the surface of walls or ceilings if these materials exhibit flame spread index values no greater than those of paper of this thickness cemented to a noncombustible backing.

**R302.9.2 Smoke-developed index.** Wall and ceiling finishes shall have a smoke-developed index of not greater than 450.

**R302.9.3 Testing.** Tests shall be made in accordance with ASTM E 84 or UL 723.

**R302.9.4 Alternative test method.** As an alternative to having a flame spread index of not greater than 200 and a smoke-developed index of not greater than 450 when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or UL 723, wall and ceiling finishes shall be permitted to be tested in accordance with NFPA 286. Materials tested in accordance with NFPA 286 shall meet the following criteria:

The interior finish shall comply with the following:

1. During the 40 kW exposure, flames shall not spread to the ceiling.
2. The flame shall not spread to the outer extremity of the sample on any wall or ceiling.
3. Flashover, as defined in NFPA 286, shall not occur.
4. The peak heat release rate throughout the test shall not exceed 800 kW.
5. The total smoke released throughout the test shall not exceed 1,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

**R302.10 Flame spread index and smoke-developed index for insulation.** Flame spread and smoke-developed index for insulation shall be in accordance with Sections R302.10.1 through R302.10.5.

**R302.10.1 Insulation.** Insulation materials, including facings, such as vapor retarders and vapor-permeable membranes installed within floor/ceiling assemblies, roof/ceiling assemblies, wall assemblies, crawl spaces and attics shall have a flame spread index not to exceed 25 with an accompanying smoke-developed index not to exceed 450 when tested in accordance with ASTM E 84 or UL 723.

#### Exceptions:

1. When such materials are installed in concealed spaces, the flame spread index and smoke-developed index limitations do not apply to the facings, provided that the facing is installed in substantial contact with the unexposed surface of the ceiling, floor or wall finish.
2. Cellulose loose-fill insulation, which is not spray applied, complying with the requirements of Section R302.10.3, shall only be required to meet the smoke-developed index of not more than 450.
3. Foam plastic insulation shall comply with Section R316.

TABLE R302.6  
DWELLING/GARAGE SEPARATION

SEPARATION	MATERIAL
From the residence and attics	Not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the garage side
From all habitable rooms above the garage	Not less than $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch Type X gypsum board or equivalent
Structure(s) supporting floor/ceiling assemblies used for separation required by this section	Not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch gypsum board or equivalent
Garages located less than 3 feet from a dwelling unit on the same lot	Not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch gypsum board or equivalent applied to the interior side of exterior walls that are within this area

For SI: 1 inch = 25.4 mm, 1 foot = 304.8 mm.

**R302.10.2 Loose-fill insulation.** Loose-fill insulation materials that cannot be mounted in the ASTM E 84 or UL 723 apparatus without a screen or artificial supports shall comply with the flame spread and smoke-developed limits of Section R302.10.1 when tested in accordance with CAN/ULC S102.2.

**Exception:** Cellulose loose-fill insulation shall not be required to be tested in accordance with CAN/ULC S102.2, provided such insulation complies with the requirements of Section R302.10.1 and Section R302.10.3.

**R302.10.3 Cellulose loose-fill insulation.** Cellulose loose-fill insulation shall comply with CPSC 16 CFR, Parts 1209 and 1404. Each package of such insulating material shall be clearly *labeled* in accordance with CPSC 16 CFR, Parts 1209 and 1404.

**R302.10.4 Exposed attic insulation.** All exposed insulation materials installed on *attic* floors shall have a critical radiant flux not less than 0.12 watt per square centimeter.

**R302.10.5 Testing.** Tests for critical radiant flux shall be made in accordance with ASTM E 970.

**R302.11 Fireblocking.** In combustible construction, fireblocking shall be provided to cut off all concealed draft openings (both vertical and horizontal) and to form an effective fire barrier between stories, and between a top *story* and the roof space.

Fireblocking shall be provided in wood-frame construction in the following locations:

1. In concealed spaces of stud walls and partitions, including furred spaces and parallel rows of studs or staggered studs, as follows:
  - 1.1. Vertically at the ceiling and floor levels.
  - 1.2. Horizontally at intervals not exceeding 10 feet (3048 mm).
2. At all interconnections between concealed vertical and horizontal spaces such as occur at soffits, drop ceilings and cove ceilings.
3. In concealed spaces between stair stringers at the top and bottom of the run. Enclosed spaces under stairs shall comply with Section R302.7.
4. At openings around vents, pipes, ducts, cables and wires at ceiling and floor level, with an *approved* material to resist the free passage of flame and products of combustion. The material filling this annular space shall not be required to meet the ASTM E 136 requirements.
5. For the fireblocking of chimneys and fireplaces, see Section R1003.19.
6. Fireblocking of cornices of a two-family *dwelling* is required at the line of *dwelling unit* separation.

**R302.11.1 Fireblocking materials.** Except as provided in Section R302.11, Item 4, fireblocking shall consist of the following materials.

1. Two-inch (51 mm) nominal lumber.

2. Two thicknesses of 1-inch (25.4 mm) nominal lumber with broken lap joints.
3. One thickness of  $\frac{23}{32}$ -inch (18.3 mm) wood structural panels with joints backed by  $\frac{23}{32}$ -inch (18.3 mm) wood structural panels.
4. One thickness of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch (19.1 mm) particleboard with joints backed by  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch (19.1 mm) particleboard.
5. One-half-inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board.
6. One-quarter-inch (6.4 mm) cement-based millboard.
7. Batts or blankets of mineral wool or glass fiber or other *approved* materials installed in such a manner as to be securely retained in place.
8. Cellulose insulation installed as tested for the specific application.

**R302.11.1.1 Batts or blankets of mineral or glass fiber.** Batts or blankets of mineral or glass fiber or other *approved* nonrigid materials shall be permitted for compliance with the 10-foot (3048 mm) horizontal fireblocking in walls constructed using parallel rows of studs or staggered studs.

**R302.11.1.2 Unfaced fiberglass.** Unfaced fiberglass batt insulation used as fireblocking shall fill the entire cross section of the wall cavity to a minimum height of 16 inches (406 mm) measured vertically. When piping, conduit or similar obstructions are encountered, the insulation shall be packed tightly around the obstruction.

**R302.11.1.3 Loose-fill insulation material.** Loose-fill insulation material shall not be used as a fireblock unless specifically tested in the form and manner intended for use to demonstrate its ability to remain in place and to retard the spread of fire and hot gases.

**R302.11.2 Fireblocking integrity.** The integrity of all fireblocks shall be maintained.

**R302.12 Draftstopping.** In combustible construction where there is usable space both above and below the concealed space of a floor/ceiling assembly, draftstops shall be installed so that the area of the concealed space does not exceed 1,000 square feet (92.9 m<sup>2</sup>). Draftstopping shall divide the concealed space into approximately equal areas. Where the assembly is enclosed by a floor membrane above and a ceiling membrane below, draftstopping shall be provided in floor/ceiling assemblies under the following circumstances:

1. Ceiling is suspended under the floor framing.
2. Floor framing is constructed of truss-type open-web or perforated members.

**R302.12.1 Materials.** Draftstopping materials shall not be less than  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (12.7 mm) gypsum board,  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch (9.5 mm) wood structural panels or other *approved* materials adequately supported. Draftstopping shall be installed parallel to the floor framing members unless otherwise *approved* by the *building official*. The integrity of the draftstops shall be maintained.

area is not less than that of a quarter circle with a radius equal to the required landing width. Where the stairway has a straight run, the minimum depth in the direction of travel shall be not less than 36 inches (914 mm).

**Exception:** A floor or landing is not required at the top of an interior flight of stairs, including stairs in an enclosed garage, provided a door does not swing over the stairs.

**R311.7.7 Stairway walking surface.** The walking surface of treads and landings of stairways shall be sloped no steeper than one unit vertical in 48 inches horizontal (2-percent slope).

**R311.7.8 Handrails.** Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of each continuous run of treads or flight with four or more risers.

**R311.7.8.1 Height.** Handrail height, measured vertically from the sloped plane adjoining the tread nosing, or finish surface of ramp slope, shall be not less than 34 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).

**Exceptions:**

1. The use of a volute, turnout or starting easing shall be allowed over the lowest tread.
2. When handrail fittings or bendings are used to provide continuous transition between flights, transitions at winder treads, the transition from handrail to guardrail, or used at the start of a flight, the handrail height at the fittings or bendings shall be permitted to exceed the maximum height.

**R311.7.8.2 Continuity.** Handrails for stairways shall be continuous for the full length of the flight, from a point directly above the top riser of the flight to a point directly above the lowest riser of the flight. Handrail ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of not less than 1½ inch (38 mm) between the wall and the handrails.

**Exceptions:**

1. Handrails shall be permitted to be interrupted by a newel post at the turn.
2. The use of a volute, turnout, starting easing or starting newel shall be allowed over the lowest tread.

**R311.7.8.3 Grip-size.** All required handrails shall be of one of the following types or provide equivalent graspability.

1. Type I. Handrails with a circular cross section shall have an outside diameter of at least 1¼ inches (32 mm) and not greater than 2 inches (51 mm). If the handrail is not circular, it shall have a perimeter dimension of at least 4 inches (102 mm) and not greater than 6¼ inches (160 mm) with a maximum cross section of dimension of 2¼ inches (57 mm). Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch (0.25 mm).

2. Type II. Handrails with a perimeter greater than 6¼ inches (160 mm) shall have a graspable finger recess area on both sides of the profile. The finger recess shall begin within a distance of ¾ inch (19 mm) measured vertically from the tallest portion of the profile and achieve a depth of at least ⅝ inch (8 mm) within ⅞ inch (22 mm) below the widest portion of the profile. This required depth shall continue for at least ¾ inch (10 mm) to a level that is not less than 1¾ inches (45 mm) below the tallest portion of the profile. The minimum width of the handrail above the recess shall be 1¼ inches (32 mm) to a maximum of 2¾ inches (70 mm). Edges shall have a minimum radius of 0.01 inch (0.25 mm).

**R311.7.8.4 Exterior wood/plastic composite handrails.** Wood/plastic composite handrails shall comply with the provisions of Section R507.3.

**R311.7.9 Illumination.** All stairs shall be provided with illumination in accordance with Section R303.6.

**R311.7.10 Special stairways.** Spiral stairways and bulkhead enclosure stairways shall comply with all requirements of Section R311.7 except as specified below.

**R311.7.10.1 Spiral stairways.** Spiral stairways are permitted, provided the minimum clear width at and below the handrail shall be 26 inches (660 mm) with each tread having a 7½-inch (190 mm) minimum tread depth at 12 inches (914 mm) from the narrower edge. All treads shall be identical, and the rise shall be no more than 9½ inches (241 mm). A minimum headroom of 6 feet 6 inches (1982 mm) shall be provided.

**R311.7.10.2 Bulkhead enclosure stairways.** Stairways serving bulkhead enclosures, not part of the required building egress, providing access from the outside *grade* level to the *basement* shall be exempt from the requirements of Sections R311.3 and R311.7 where the maximum height from the *basement* finished floor level to *grade* adjacent to the stairway does not exceed 8 feet (2438 mm) and the *grade* level opening to the stairway is covered by a bulkhead enclosure with hinged doors or other *approved* means.

**R311.8 Ramps.**

**R311.8.1 Maximum slope.** Ramps shall have a maximum slope of 1 unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (8.3-percent slope).

**Exception:** Where it is technically infeasible to comply because of site constraints, ramps may have a maximum slope of one unit vertical in eight horizontal (12.5-percent slope).

**R311.8.2 Landings required.** A minimum 3-foot-by-3-foot (914 mm by 914 mm) landing shall be provided:

1. At the top and bottom of ramps.
2. Where doors open onto ramps.
3. Where ramps change direction.

**R311.8.3 Handrails required.** Handrails shall be provided on at least one side of all ramps exceeding a slope of one unit vertical in 12 units horizontal (8.33-percent slope).

**R311.8.3.1 Height.** Handrail height, measured above the finished surface of the ramp slope, shall be not less than 34 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm).

**R311.8.3.2 Grip size.** Handrails on ramps shall comply with Section R311.7.8.3.

**R311.8.3.3 Continuity.** Handrails where required on ramps shall be continuous for the full length of the ramp. Handrail ends shall be returned or shall terminate in newel posts or safety terminals. Handrails adjacent to a wall shall have a space of not less than 1½ inches (38 mm) between the wall and the handrails.

## SECTION R312 GUARDS AND WINDOW FALL PROTECTION

**R312.1 Guards.** Guards shall be provided in accordance with Sections R312.1.1 through R312.1.4.

**R312.1.1 Where required.** *Guards* shall be located along open-sided walking surfaces, including stairs, ramps and landings, that are located more than 30 inches (762 mm) measured vertically to the floor or *grade* below at any point within 36 inches (914 mm) horizontally to the edge of the open side. Insect screening shall not be considered as a *guard*.

**R312.1.2 Height.** Required *guards* at open-sided walking surfaces, including stairs, porches, balconies or landings, shall be not less than 36 inches (914 mm) high measured vertically above the adjacent walking surface, adjacent fixed seating or the line connecting the leading edges of the treads.

### Exceptions:

1. *Guards* on the open sides of stairs shall have a height not less than 34 inches (864 mm) measured vertically from a line connecting the leading edges of the treads.
2. Where the top of the *guard* also serves as a handrail on the open sides of stairs, the top of the *guard* shall not be less than 34 inches (864 mm) and not more than 38 inches (965 mm) measured vertically from a line connecting the leading edges of the treads.

**R312.1.3 Opening limitations.** Required *guards* shall not have openings from the walking surface to the required *guard* height which allow passage of a sphere 4 inches (102 mm) in diameter.

### Exceptions:

1. The triangular openings at the open side of stair, formed by the riser, tread and bottom rail of a *guard*, shall not allow passage of a sphere 6 inches (153 mm) in diameter.

2. *Guards* on the open side of stairs shall not have openings which allow passage of a sphere 4¾ inches (111 mm) in diameter.

**R312.1.4 Exterior woodplastic composite guards.** Woodplastic composite *guards* shall comply with the provisions of Section R317.4.

**R312.2 Window fall protection.** Window fall protection shall be provided in accordance with Sections R312.2.1 and R312.2.2. \*\*

**R312.2.1 Window sills.** In dwelling units, where the opening of an operable window is located more than 72 inches (1829 mm) above the finished grade or surface below, the lowest part of the clear opening of the window shall be a minimum of 24 inches (610 mm) above the finished floor of the room in which the window is located. Operable sections of windows shall not permit openings that allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere where such openings are located within 24 inches (610 mm) of the finished floor.

### Exceptions:

1. Windows whose openings will not allow a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere to pass through the opening when the opening is in its largest opened position.
2. Openings that are provided with window fall prevention devices that comply with ASTM F 2090.
3. Windows that are provided with window opening control devices that comply with Section R312.2.2.

**R312.2.2 Window opening control devices.** Window opening control devices shall comply with ASTM F 2090. The window opening control device, after operation to release the control device allowing the window to fully open, shall not reduce the minimum net clear opening area of the window unit to less than the area required by Section R310.1.1.

## SECTION R313 AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

**R313.1 Townhouse automatic fire sprinkler systems.** An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required in *townhouses*. ● ● ● ★ ★ ● ●

**R313.1.1 Design and installation.** Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems for *townhouses* shall be designed and installed in accordance with NFPA 13D, when provided. ● ● ● ● ●

**R313.2 One- and two-family dwellings automatic fire systems.** An automatic residential fire sprinkler system shall not be required in one- and two-family *dwellings*. ● ● ● ● ●

**R313.2.1 Design and installation.** Automatic residential fire sprinkler systems shall be designed and installed in accordance with Section P2904 or NFPA 13D. ★ ★

## SECTION R314 SMOKE ALARMS

**R314.1 Smoke detection and notification.** All smoke alarms shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 217 and installed in accordance with the provisions of this code and the household fire warning *equipment* provisions of NFPA 72.

**R314.2 Smoke detection systems.** Household fire alarm systems installed in accordance with NFPA 72 that include smoke alarms, or a combination of smoke detector and audible notification device installed as required by this section for smoke alarms, shall be permitted. The household fire alarm system shall provide the same level of smoke detection and alarm as required by this section for smoke alarms. Where a household fire warning system is installed using a combination of smoke detector and audible notification device(s), it shall become a permanent fixture of the occupancy and owned by the homeowner. The system shall be monitored by an *approved* supervising station and be maintained in accordance with NFPA 72.

**Exception:** Where smoke alarms are provided meeting the requirements of Section R314.4.

**R314.3 Location.** Smoke alarms shall be installed in the following locations:

1. In each sleeping room.
2. Outside each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms.
3. On each additional *story* of the *dwelling*, including *basements* and habitable attics but not including crawl spaces and uninhabitable *attics*. In *dwelling*s or *dwelling* units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full *story* below the upper level.

**R314.3.1 New and existing construction.** Every new and existing dwelling, including one- and two-family dwellings, and every new and existing dwelling unit within a townhouse shall be provided with an approved listed smoke alarm.

**R314.4 Power source.** Smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring when such wiring is served from a commercial source, and when primary power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.

**Exceptions:**

1. Smoke alarms shall be permitted to be battery operated when installed in buildings without commercial power.

2. Hard wiring of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required where the *alterations* or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an *attic*, crawl space or *basement* available which could provide access for hard wiring without the removal of interior finishes.

**R314.5 Interconnection.** Where more than one smoke alarm is required to be installed within an individual dwelling unit in accordance with Section R314.3, the alarm devices shall be interconnected in such a manner that the actuation of one alarm will activate all of the alarms in the individual unit. Physical interconnection of smoke alarms shall not be required where listed wireless alarms are installed and all alarms sound upon activation of one alarm.

**Exception:** Interconnection of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure, unless there is an attic, crawl space or basement available which could provide access for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

## SECTION R315 CARBON MONOXIDE ALARMS

**R315.1 Carbon monoxide alarms.** For new construction, an approved carbon monoxide alarm shall be installed outside of each separate sleeping area in the immediate vicinity of the bedrooms in *dwelling* units within which fuel-fired *appliances* are installed and in dwelling units that have attached garages.

**R315.2 Carbon monoxide detection systems.** Carbon monoxide detection systems that include carbon monoxide detectors and audible notification appliances, installed and maintained in accordance with this section for carbon monoxide alarms and NFPA 720, shall be permitted. The carbon monoxide detectors shall be listed as complying with UL 2075. Where a household carbon monoxide detection system is installed, it shall become a permanent fixture of the occupancy, owned by the homeowner and shall be monitored by an approved supervising station.

**Exception:** Where carbon monoxide alarms are installed meeting the requirements of Section R315.1, compliance with Section 315.2 is not required.

**R315.3 Where required in existing dwellings.** Where work requiring a *permit* occurs in existing *dwellings* that have attached garages or in existing dwellings within which fuel-fired *appliances* exist, carbon monoxide alarms shall be provided in accordance with Section R315.1.

**R315.4 Alarm requirements.** Single-station carbon monoxide alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and shall be installed in accordance with this code and the manufacturer's installation instructions.

## SECTION R316 FOAM PLASTIC

**R316.1 General.** The provisions of this section shall govern the materials, design, application, construction and installation of foam plastic materials.

**R316.2 Labeling and identification.** Packages and containers of foam plastic insulation and foam plastic insulation components delivered to the job site shall bear the *label* of an *approved agency* showing the manufacturer's name, the product listing, product identification and information sufficient to determine that the end use will comply with the requirements.

**R316.3 Surface burning characteristics.** Unless otherwise allowed in Section R316.5 or R316.6, all foam plastic or foam plastic cores used as a component in manufactured assemblies used in building construction shall have a flame spread index of not more than 75 and shall have a smoke-developed index of not more than 450 when tested in the maximum thickness intended for use in accordance with ASTM E 84 or UL 723. Loose-fill-type foam plastic insulation shall be tested as board stock for the flame spread index and smoke-developed index.

**Exception:** Foam plastic insulation more than 4 inches (102 mm) thick shall have a maximum flame spread index of 75 and a smoke-developed index of 450 where tested at a minimum thickness of 4 inches (102 mm), provided the end use is *approved* in accordance with Section R316.6 using the thickness and density intended for use.

**R316.4 Thermal barrier.** Unless otherwise allowed in Section R316.5 or Section R316.6, foam plastic shall be separated from the interior of a building by an *approved* thermal barrier of minimum  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (12.7 mm) gypsum wallboard or a material that is tested in accordance with and meets the acceptance criteria of both the Temperature Transmission Fire Test and the Integrity Fire Test of NFPA 275.

**R316.5 Specific requirements.** The following requirements shall apply to these uses of foam plastic unless specifically *approved* in accordance with Section R316.6 or by other sections of the code or the requirements of Sections R316.2 through R316.4 have been met.

**R316.5.1 Masonry or concrete construction.** The thermal barrier specified in Section R316.4 is not required in a masonry or concrete wall, floor or roof when the foam plastic insulation is separated from the interior of the building by a minimum 1-inch (25 mm) thickness of masonry or concrete.

**R316.5.2 Roofing.** The thermal barrier specified in Section R316.4 is not required when the foam plastic in a roof assembly or under a roof covering is installed in accordance

with the code and the manufacturer's installation instructions and is separated from the interior of the building by tongue-and-groove wood planks or wood structural panel sheathing in accordance with Section R803, not less than  $\frac{15}{32}$  inch (11.9 mm) thick bonded with exterior glue and identified as Exposure 1, with edges supported by blocking or tongue-and-groove joints or an equivalent material. The smoke-developed index for roof applications shall not be limited.

**R316.5.3 Attics.** The thermal barrier specified in Section R316.4 is not required where all of the following apply:

1. Attic access is required by Section R807.1.
2. The space is entered only for purposes of repairs or maintenance.
3. The foam plastic insulation is protected against ignition using one of the following ignition barrier materials:
  - 3.1.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick (38 mm) mineral fiber insulation;
  - 3.2.  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-thick (6.4 mm) wood structural panels;
  - 3.3.  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch (9.5 mm) particleboard;
  - 3.4.  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4 mm) hardboard;
  - 3.5.  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch (9.5 mm) gypsum board; or
  - 3.6. Corrosion-resistant steel having a base metal thickness of 0.016 inch (0.406 mm);
  - 3.7.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick (38 mm) cellulose insulation.

The above ignition barrier is not required where the foam plastic insulation has been tested in accordance with Section R316.6.

**R316.5.4 Crawl spaces.** The thermal barrier specified in Section R316.4 is not required where all of the following apply:

1. Crawlspace access is required by Section R408.4.
2. Entry is made only for purposes of repairs or maintenance.
3. The foam plastic insulation is protected against ignition using one of the following ignition barrier materials:
  - 3.1.  $1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch-thick (38 mm) mineral fiber insulation;
  - 3.2.  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-thick (6.4 mm) wood structural panels;



**R406.4 Precast concrete foundation system dampproofing.** Except where required by Section R406.2 to be waterproofed, precast concrete foundation walls enclosing habitable or useable spaces located below *grade* shall be dampproofed in accordance with Section R406.1.

**R406.4.1 Panel joints sealed.** Precast concrete foundation panel joints shall be sealed full height with a sealant meeting ASTM C 920, Type S or M, *Grade* NS, Class 25, Use NT, M or A. Joint sealant shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

## SECTION R407 COLUMNS

**R407.1 Wood column protection.** Wood columns shall be protected against decay as set forth in Section R317.

**R407.2 Steel column protection.** All surfaces (inside and outside) of steel columns shall be given a shop coat of rust-inhibitive paint, except for corrosion-resistant steel and steel treated with coatings to provide corrosion resistance.

**R407.3 Structural requirements.** The columns shall be restrained to prevent lateral displacement at the bottom end. Wood columns shall not be less in nominal size than 4 inches by 4 inches (102 mm by 102 mm). Steel columns shall not be less than 3-inch-diameter (76 mm) Schedule 40 pipe manufactured in accordance with ASTM A 53 Grade B or *approved* equivalent.

**Exception:** In Seismic Design Categories A, B and C, columns no more than 48 inches (1219 mm) in height on a pier or footing are exempt from the bottom end lateral displacement requirement within under-floor areas enclosed by a continuous foundation.

## SECTION R408 UNDER-FLOOR SPACE

**R408.1 Ventilation.** The under-floor space between the bottom of the floor joists and the earth under any building (except space occupied by a *basement*) shall have ventilation openings through foundation walls or exterior walls. The minimum net area of ventilation openings shall not be less than 1 square foot (0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>) for each 150 square feet (14 m<sup>2</sup>) of under-floor space area, unless the ground surface is covered by a Class 1 vapor retarder material. When a Class 1 vapor retarder material is used, the minimum net area of ventilation openings shall not be less than 1 square foot (0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>) for each 1,500 square feet (140 m<sup>2</sup>) of under-floor space area. One such ventilating opening shall be within 3 feet (914 mm) of each corner of the building.

**R408.2 Openings for under-floor ventilation.** The minimum net area of ventilation openings shall not be less than 1 square foot (0.0929 m<sup>2</sup>) for each 150 square feet (14 m<sup>2</sup>) of under-floor area. One ventilation opening shall be within 3 feet (915 mm) of each corner of the building. Ventilation

openings shall be covered for their height and width with any of the following materials provided that the least dimension of the covering shall not exceed  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm):

1. Perforated sheet metal plates not less than 0.070 inch (1.8 mm) thick.
2. Expanded sheet metal plates not less than 0.047 inch (1.2 mm) thick.
3. Cast-iron grill or grating.
4. Extruded load-bearing brick vents.
5. Hardware cloth of 0.035 inch (0.89 mm) wire or heavier.
6. Corrosion-resistant wire mesh, with the least dimension being  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (3.2 mm) thick.

**Exception:** The total area of ventilation openings shall be permitted to be reduced to  $\frac{1}{1,500}$  of the under-floor area where the ground surface is covered with an *approved* Class I vapor retarder material and the required openings are placed to provide cross ventilation of the space. The installation of operable louvers shall not be prohibited.

**R408.3 Unvented crawl space.** Ventilation openings in under-floor spaces specified in Sections R408.1 and R408.2 shall not be required where:

1. Exposed earth is covered with a continuous Class I vapor retarder. Joints of the vapor retarder shall overlap by 6 inches (152 mm) and shall be sealed or taped. The edges of the vapor retarder shall extend at least 6 inches (152 mm) up the stem wall and shall be attached and sealed to the stem wall or insulation; and
2. The unvented crawl space is provided with a mechanical exhaust and supply air system. The mechanical exhaust rate shall be not less than 0.02 cfm per square foot (0.00001 m<sup>3</sup>/s × m<sup>2</sup>) of horizontal area and shall be automatically controlled to operate when the relative humidity in the space served exceeds 60 percent; alternatively, for crawl spaces, the mechanical exhaust shall be automatically controlled to operate when the absolute moisture content of the outside air is less than or equal to the moisture content in the served space but shall not operate when the outside temperature is below 32°F (0°C).

**R408.3.1 Supply air.** The use of a crawl space for a supply air plenum is prohibited.

**R408.4 Access.** Access shall be provided to all under-floor spaces. Access openings through the floor shall be a minimum of 18 inches by 24 inches (457 mm by 610 mm). Openings through a perimeter wall shall be not less than 16 inches by 24 inches (407 mm by 610 mm). When any portion of the through-wall access is below *grade*, an areaway not less than 16 inches by 24 inches (407 mm by 610 mm) shall be provided. The bottom of the areaway shall be below the threshold of the access opening. Through wall access openings shall not be located under a door to the residence. See Section

## FOUNDATIONS

M1305.1.4 for access requirements where mechanical *equipment* is located under floors.

**R408.5 Removal of debris.** The under-floor *grade* shall be cleaned of all vegetation and organic material. All wood forms used for placing concrete shall be removed before a building is occupied or used for any purpose. All construction materials shall be removed before a building is occupied or used for any purpose.

**R408.6 Finished grade.** The finished *grade* of under-floor surface may be located at the bottom of the footings; however, where there is evidence that the groundwater table can rise to within 6 inches (152 mm) of the finished floor at the building perimeter or where there is evidence that the surface water does not readily drain from the building site, the *grade* in the under-floor space shall be as high as the outside finished *grade*, unless an *approved* drainage system is provided.

**R408.7 Flood resistance.** For buildings located in flood hazard areas as established in Table R301.2(1):

1. Walls enclosing the under-floor space shall be provided with flood openings in accordance with Section R322.2.2.
2. The finished ground level of the under-floor space shall be equal to or higher than the outside finished ground level on at least one side.

**Exception:** Under-floor spaces that meet the requirements of FEMA/FIA TB 11-1.

## ***Part IV—Energy Conservation***

### **CHAPTER 11 [RE] ENERGY EFFICIENCY**



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*Chapter 11 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas Energy Code.*

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## **Part V—Mechanical**

### **CHAPTER 12**

## **MECHANICAL ADMINISTRATION**

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*Chapter 12 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 13**

## **GENERAL MECHANICAL SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS**

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*Chapter 13 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 14**

## **HEATING AND COOLING EQUIPMENT AND APPLIANCES**

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*Chapter 14 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 15**

## **EXHAUST SYSTEMS**

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### **CHAPTER 16**

## **DUCT SYSTEMS**

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*Chapter 16 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 17**

## **COMBUSTION AIR**

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*Chapter 17 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

**CHAPTER 18**  
**CHIMNEYS AND VENTS**

*Chapter 18 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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**CHAPTER 19**  
**SPECIAL APPLIANCES, EQUIPMENT AND SYSTEMS**

*Chapter 19 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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**CHAPTER 20**  
**BOILERS AND WATER HEATERS**

*Chapter 20 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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**CHAPTER 21**  
**HYDRONIC PIPING**

*Chapter 21 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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**CHAPTER 22**  
**SPECIAL PIPING AND STORAGE SYSTEMS**

*Chapter 22 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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**CHAPTER 23**  
**SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS**

*Chapter 23 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Mechanical Code.*

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## **Part VI—Fuel Gas**

### **CHAPTER 24 FUEL GAS**



*Chapter 24 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Gas Code.*

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SECTION 1001.01

SECTION 1001.02

SECTION 1001.03



## ***Part VII—Plumbing***

### **CHAPTER 25**

## **PLUMBING ADMINISTRATION.**

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*Chapter 25 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

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### **CHAPTER 26**

## **GENERAL PLUMBING REQUIREMENTS**

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*Chapter 26 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

### **CHAPTER 27**

## **PLUMBING FIXTURES**

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*Chapter 27 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

### **CHAPTER 28**

## **WATER HEATERS**

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*Chapter 28 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

### **CHAPTER 29**

## **WATER SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION**

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*Chapter 29 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

### **CHAPTER 30**

## **SANITARY DRAINAGE**

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*Chapter 30 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

## **CHAPTER 31**

### **VENTS**

*Chapter 31 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

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## **CHAPTER 32**

### **TRAPS**

*Chapter 32 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas State Plumbing Code.*

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## **CHAPTER 33**

### **STORM DRAINAGE**

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## **Part VIII—Electrical**

### **CHAPTER 34 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

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*Chapter 34 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

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### **CHAPTER 35 ELECTRICAL DEFINITIONS**

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*Chapter 35 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 36 SERVICES**

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*Chapter 36 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 37 BRANCH CIRCUIT AND FEEDER REQUIREMENTS**

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*Chapter 37 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 38 WIRING METHODS**

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*Chapter 38 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 39 POWER AND LIGHTING DISTRIBUTION**

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*Chapter 39 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

### **CHAPTER 40 DEVICES AND LUMINAIRES**

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*Chapter 40 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

## **CHAPTER 41**

# **APPLIANCE INSTALLATION**

*Chapter 41 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

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## **CHAPTER 42**

# **SWIMMING POOLS**

*Chapter 42 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

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## **CHAPTER 43**

# **CLASS 2 REMOTE-CONTROL, SIGNALING AND POWER-LIMITED CIRCUITS**

*Chapter 43 deleted in its entirety. Refer to the Arkansas (National) Electrical Code.*

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**APPENDIX A**

**SIZING AND CAPACITIES OF GAS PIPING**

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*Appendix A deleted in its entirety.*

**APPENDIX B**

**SIZING OF VENTING SYSTEMS SERVING APPLIANCES EQUIPPED  
WITH DRAFT HOODS, CATEGORY I APPLIANCES, AND  
APPLIANCES LISTED FOR USE WITH TYPE B VENTS**

★  
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*Appendix B deleted in its entirety.*

**APPENDIX C**

**EXIT TERMINALS OF MECHANICAL DRAFT AND DIRECT-VENT  
VENTING SYSTEMS**

★  
★

*Appendix C deleted in its entirety.*

**APPENDIX D**

**RECOMMENDED PROCEDURE FOR SAFETY INSPECTION OF AN  
EXISTING APPLIANCE INSTALLATION**

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**APPENDIX E**

**MANUFACTURED HOUSING USED AS DWELLINGS**

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**APPENDIX F**

**RADON CONTROL METHODS**

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*Appendix F deleted in its entirety.*

**APPENDIX G**  
**SWIMMING POOLS, SPAS AND HOT TUBS**

*Appendix G deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX H**  
**PATIO COVERS**

*Appendix H deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX I**  
**PRIVATE SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

*Appendix I deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX J**  
**EXISTING BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

*Appendix J deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX K**  
**SOUND TRANSMISSION**

*Appendix K deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX L**  
**PERMIT FEES**

*Appendix L deleted in its entirety.*

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**APPENDIX M**  
**HOME DAY CARE—R-3 OCCUPANCY**

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APPENDIX N  
**VENTING METHODS**

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*Appendix N deleted in its entirety.*

APPENDIX O  
**AUTOMATIC VEHICULAR GATES**

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*Appendix O deleted in its entirety.*

APPENDIX P  
**SIZING OF WATER PIPING SYSTEM**

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★  
*Appendix P deleted in its entirety.*

APPENDIX Q  
**ICC INTERNATIONAL RESIDENTIAL CODE ELECTRICAL  
PROVISIONS/NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CODE CROSS REFERENCE**

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